



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/024,681	12/18/2001	Rajiv Manucha	130-0002US	2931
29855	7590	03/02/2006	EXAMINER	
WONG, CABELLO, LUTSCH, RUTHERFORD & BRUCCULERI, P.C. 20333 SH 249 SUITE 600 HOUSTON, TX 77070			KINDRED, ALFORD W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2163	

DATE MAILED: 03/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/024,681	MANUCHA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alford W. Kindred	2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communication: Response, filed on 12/07/05.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Le et al., US# 2003/0065949 A1, in view of Zachariassen et al., US# 2002/0062280 A1.

As per claim 1, Le et al. teaches "a database of records relating to a plurality of shipments of goods, where said goods are shipped between at least two jurisdictions, each record having information relating to at least a first jurisdiction and a second jurisdiction; a database server in communication with said database" (see paragraph [0079], [0088], [0090], and [0094]) "an application server in communication with said database server for providing a user interface to at least one client, each said client associated with a member of a supply chain for a particular one of said plurality of shipments of said goods" (see paragraph [0003], [0024], [0094]). Le et al. does not explicitly teach "said interface allowing each said member to modify at least a portion of a record relating to said particular one of said plurality of shipments of said goods." Zachariassen et al. teaches "said interface allowing each said member to modify at

Art Unit: 2163

least a portion of a record relating to said particular one of said plurality of shipments of said goods" (see paragraph [0022], [0109], and [0134]). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention for one ordinary skill in the art the tools to have combined the teachings of Le and Zachariassen, because using the steps "said interface allowing each said member to modify at least a portion of a record relating to said particular one of said plurality of shipments of said goods" would have given those skilled in the art the tools to manipulated the records of shipments of individual products or groups of products in a individual specific fashion. This gives users the advantage of controlling the shipments of products more efficiently.

As per claim 2, Le et al. teaches "wherein said application server only allows a particular one of said members to modify said at least a portion of said record if said particular one of said members has proper security authorization" (see paragraph [0042]-[0043]).

As per claim 3, Le et al. teaches "an electronic data interchange server in communication with said database server" (see paragraph [0052], and [0059]-[0060]).

As per claim 4, "said electronic data interchange server allows said system to exchange information with databases and data repositories of said members of said supply chain" (see paragraph [0005] and [0104]-[0105]).

As per claim 5, Le et al. teaches "wherein said electronic data interchange server allows access to databases maintained by governments of said jurisdictions" (see paragraph [0077], [0079], and [0088]).

As per claim 6, Le et al. "a file transfer protocol server for enabling receipt and

transmission of said records using the file transfer protocol" (see paragraph [0016], [0094] [0105]).

As per claim 7, Le et al. "a hyper-text transfer protocol (HTTP) server for enabling receipt of a request for a page and transmission of said page to an origin of said request" (see abstract, paragraph [0016}).

As per claim 8-12, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the argument given above for rejected claims 1-4 and are similarly rejected including the following:

--Le teaches "determining whether said instruction to modify relates to a portion of said one of said records . . . which said member has modification authority" (see [0036] and [0042], whereas Le's teachings of a firewall for limiting access to verified users in paragraph [0036] teachings the request to authenticate to access an network element and Le's teachings of defining the firewall combined with Le's teachings of a gate-keeping message element, reads on applicant's claim language).

--"query for information stored in databases maintained by governments of said at least two jurisdictions" (see paragraph [0088] and [0090]) "at least two jurisdiction to determine a clearance status of a given shipment of said plurality of shipments of said goods" (see paragraph[0079] and [0094]).

As per claims 13-14, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claim 1-4 and 8 and are similarly rejected.

As per claims 15, this claim is rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-3 is similarly rejected.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 and 13-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

--As per applicant's arguments regarding "none of the discussed databases includes records, wherein each record has 'data required to process exporting of a product . . . importing of a product to a second jurisdiction' . . .", examiner disagrees and maintains that Le's teachings of various databases regarding the importing and exporting of products, includes required data for each record in those databases as illustrated in applicant's claim language.

Art Unit: 2163

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alford W. Kindred whose telephone number is 571-272-4037. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9:00 am- 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on (571) 272-4023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Alford W. Kindred
Patent Examiner
Tech Ctr. 2100